

## **REMARKS**

Entry of the foregoing amendment is respectfully requested. The Amendment places the application in condition for allowances and is, therefore, appropriate under Rule 116.

By the present amendment, claims 1-3, 5-7, 9 and 11 are canceled, claims 12-13 are added, and claims 4, 8 and 10 are amended to provide their proper dependency.

Based on the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, the application is deemed to be in condition for allowance and action to that end is respectfully requested.

Claims 12-13 correspond in scope to claims 2 and 7 which were indicated as being allowable upon having been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 12-13, which are claims 2 and 7 so rewritten, are in condition for allowance.

When rewriting claim 7 in independent form, the objection of the Examiner to claim 3, on which claim 7 depended, have been overcome by reciting that the annular element is non-rotatably connected with fastening means.

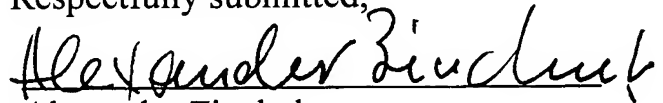
It is further respectfully submitted that claims 4, 8, and 10, amended to depend on claims 12, are also allowable as being dependent on an allowable subject matter.

### CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place the case in condition for final allowance, it is respectfully requested that such amendment or correction be carried out by Examiner's Amendment and the case passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

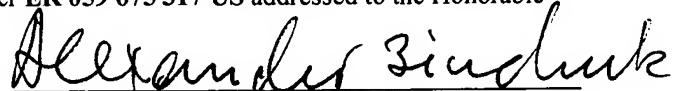


Alexander Zinchuk

Reg. No. 30,541

Dated: February 7, 2006  
Abelman, Frayne & Schwab  
666 Third Avenue, 10th Floor  
New York, NY 10017-5621  
212-885-9383

This correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on February 7, 2006 in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label Number **ER 059 675 317 US** addressed to the Honorable Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Alexander Zinchuk